Questions to Whitefish School District October 2014 per committee member Sarah Conkle

Deanne Sramek School Nurse in Whitefish School District:

1600 kids

1 High School – 5 FA

1 Middle School – 6 FA

1 Elementary School – 11 FA (600 students)

        3 years ago Jay Stagg Food Service Director made the decision to remove all nuts and peanut butter from the kitchens. They use Sunbutter instead. She said it was an easy switch.

        Also, Whitefish has made all of their three schools nut/peanut free zones. I mean the entire building. All classrooms, hallways library, etc. are safe zones. The only place nuts are allowed is the cafeteria. Parents can send nuts from home. But there are safe areas where FA kids can sit and bring friends along so nobody is excluded.

        Middle School new vending machine will be nut free.

        High School coffee shop is nut free.

        They send a letter to all parents at the beginning of the school year to inform about the policy.

        They have received positive feedback from FA families.

        They have not received any ‘flack’ from other parents as far as she knows.

        Even though the buildings (not including the cafeteria) are nut/ peanut free, the nurse holds a mandatory all-staff training at the beginning of the year about FA recognition and epi-pen training (including custodians, and playground workers). All additional safety measures are still in place, eg careful identification and monitoring of FA children.

        Middle and High School students can carry their own medication.

Whitefish has hung epi-lockers in their schools. These are cases that hang on the wall and can store epi-pens. This helps ensure the consistency of being able to get to medicine when needed.

Whitefish has 7 in the Elementary School, 5 in the high School and I don’t know how many in the Middle School

Please go to the following site: <https://www.epipen4schools.com/>

Click on resources. These are epi-lockers. You can only get a certain amount of lockers from this site per school.

Another source is:

<https://www.macgill.com/ProductDetail/36664-Epiready-Wall-Cabinet-Blue>

She is going to give my email to the food service director – hopefully he will contact me about how they managed the financial issue when making the switch.